



## The Trustees of Reservations

SPECIAL PLACES

Volume 3, Issue No. 4 Fall 1995

K. A. WOLLENSAK

*Estabrook Woods in Concord—a 72-acre conservation easement will help protect the watershed of adjacent Hutchins Pond (above) and Mink Pond.*

## Protection of Estabrook Woods Approaches Initial Goal

### *But the Goal Post Is Moving*

Permanent protection of at least 1,100 acres of the historic Estabrook Woods in Concord and Carlisle is much closer to reality, a year and a half after the Campaign for Estabrook Woods was announced under the ancient black locust at The Trustees' Old Manse property in Concord.

In June 1994, the campaign was launched (see the Summer 1994 issue of *Special Places*) with Harvard's assurance that its 672 acre property in Concord and Carlisle, part of its Museum of Comparative Zoology, would be permanently secure for ecological research and education if permanent protection could be obtained for at least 400 acres of land within the historic boundaries of Estabrook Woods. At the same time, Concord's Middlesex School announced its willingness to place conservation restrictions on approximately 53 acres of its campus, including the southern portion of Bateman's Pond and adjacent wetlands.

Since the campaign began, the Town Meetings of Concord and Carlisle have voted to place permanent restrictions on 244 acres of town conservation land and Middlesex School of Concord has presented a conservation restriction for town and state review and approval. All of

these restrictions will be held by The Trustees. In addition, Gilbert and Olive Lawrence of Concord have donated a permanent agricultural preservation restriction on 12 acres on Monument Street to the Concord Land Conservation Trust (CLCT), and other private landowners have made similar commitments.

Now after several months' work by The Trustees and CLCT, the U.S. Forest Service is preparing to buy a conservation easement on 72 acres of high quality forest land at the southern gateway to the Estabrook Woods. Part of Pippin Tree Farm, owned by the Russell and Leslee Robb family of Concord, the parcel abuts Estabrook Road (the Minutemen's marching route from Acton) to the west and the Harvard property to the north. If all goes well, the Forest Legacy program will close before year's end on the permanent restriction for \$1.5 million, a fraction of its fair market value.

Marian Thornton, Chairman of CLCT, member of The Trustees' Advisory Council, and winner of The Trustees' 1994 Conservationist of the Year award, has worked for several years to obtain Forest

*continued on page 3*

## Dear Friends and Trustees:



Frederic Winthrop, Jr.

Fiscal Year '95, ending last March, was one of solid accomplishments for The Trustees on many fronts.

The work of our Land Conservation Center was pro-active. The Center completed a remarkable 19 projects, including several very important conservation restrictions and additions to our reservations across the state. A much greater number of projects are in process, but many will require years of gestation—not a job for the impatient or faint-hearted.

Likewise, the men and women charged with the management of the properties, by far our broadest area of responsibility, have been tremendously active. Your reservation managers and field staff took on a staggering array of challenges last year in general, planning for the management of new acquisitions, protecting the historic and ecological resources of the properties we already have, and working to enhance the experience of the visiting public. We want our visitors to enjoy themselves, but also to come away better informed and with a better appreciation of the resources we are trying to protect.

The rest of the staff supports the work of the land conservation and property management departments—spreading the word, recruiting new members, and working to raise the wherewithal necessary to carry forward the mission. To these ends a number of excellent publications have helped enormously as, I believe, has our reputation for careful financial management. Membership is up another 10 percent this year. Annual giving also has risen dramatically, thanks in large part to the enthusiastic reception that greeted

the launching of *The Charles Eliot Society*, our premier giving group. Over 100 supporters have enlisted as founding members!

Unfortunately, the generosity of all our loyal friends, great as it was, was not enough to counterbalance the shortfall in reservation receipts. Returns from the Castle Hill Festival were particularly disappointing and a number of wet weekends during the summer of 1994 kept beachgoers away in droves. While we shouldn't blame ourselves for the weather, the lesson from the past year is this: in addition to continuing careful cost controls, we must budget more conservatively on the revenue side. We must also identify and develop new sources of revenue.

This last will be an important part of "Trustees 2000," the strategic planning effort now getting underway. During the coming year, members of the board and staff will be scanning the horizon, looking for answers to the question, "Where do we want the Trustees to be at the millenium and how will we get there?" We believe the good ship has proven itself seaworthy; we have checked for leaks, the rigging is in good order and the sails are sound. The crew is ready. Now, to chart our course and fill the sails with a strong and steady wind! It promises to be an exciting trip and we are mighty glad you are all on board.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Frederic Winthrop, Jr.".

Frederic Winthrop, Jr.  
Director

### The Trustees of Reservations

Founded in 1891, The Trustees is the world's oldest land trust. It is a member-supported land conservation organization, dedicated to preserving for public use and enjoyment properties of exceptional scenic, historic and ecological value across Massachusetts. Today, the Trustees owns and manages 77 properties, totaling approximately 19,500 acres, and protects an additional 9,700 acres through the use of conservation restrictions.

The Trustees of Reservations is a private, non-profit organization and relies for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, admission fees, grants and endowments. For information about membership, please contact the Membership Office at (508) 921-1944, or write to 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530.

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We invite your articles, photographs, comments, and suggestions. Please send them to *Special Places*, P. O. Box 563, 290 Argilla Road, Ipswich, MA 01938. Tel: (508) 356-4351. Fax: (508) 356-2143. Electronic Mail: [SpecialPlace@eWorld.com](mailto:SpecialPlace@eWorld.com)

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## Estabrook Progress Report

*continued from front cover*

Legacy funds for land within Estabrook Woods. Under the program authorized by Congress in 1990, participating states nominate significant tracts of managed forest for protection by means of conservation restrictions. "We had to work hard to convince the Massachusetts Forest Legacy committee to allocate funds to some of the most expensive forest land anywhere," said Thornton. "Without the extraordinary bargain sale offered by the Robb family and the leverage provided by the Harvard challenge, we could not have obtained the funds to protect this key property," said Thornton.

Faced with recision threats this spring, Forest Legacy administrators urged the Estabrook campaign to work quickly so that funds could be set aside for the Pippin Tree property. "Negotiations over boilerplate language in the standard Forest Service option agreements had stalled, and we realized that the funds allocated to Estabrook could be lost," explains Wes Ward, Director of The Trustees' Land Conservation Center. "Fortunately, we were able to use The Trustees' land conservation affiliate, the Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust (MLCT), as a broker." MLCT quickly signed the troublesome agreement with the Forest Service and negotiated a straight-forward option with Pippin Tree Trust. Over the summer, title and survey work was completed. At this writing, the closing documents are being prepared by the Forest Service.

"This is one of the most ambitious conservation projects in our 104-year history," observes Frederic Winthrop, Director of The Trustees. "Our Land Conservation Center was established to meet just this kind of challenge, and we are delighted to work with our Concord and Carlisle partners and the landowners who have responded positively to the Estabrook Campaign."

As the campaign approaches its basic goal, even more ambitious goals have been set. Strongly encouraged by Professor Richard Taylor, who was Director of the Concord Field Station of Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology until his sudden death on September 10, 1995, the campaign is seeking conservation restrictions on an additional 400 acres within the core of Estabrook Woods plus two additional areas where some 700 acres are at risk from eventual development: One area is located between Monument Street in Concord and the Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge to the east; the other lies in the Spencer Brook Valley to the west of Lowell Road.



*Representative Martin Meehan, Leslee Robb (left) and Marian Thornton inspecting the Pippin Tree Parcel last April in Concord.*

In many ways, this campaign is a new departure for The Trustees. Here are the answers to some questions that are frequently asked.

### *How does the Estabrook project fit into The Trustees' mission?*

We have a two-part mission—to preserve special places for the use and enjoyment of the public, and to assist others in protecting important open land in Massachusetts. We began the Land Conservation Center in 1990 to strengthen our program of outreach and assistance; it is made to order for this kind of complex project. Moreover, the Estabrook project *will* provide new opportunities for the public to enjoy protected open space.

### *Will The Trustees obtain a new reservation?*

When we enlisted in this effort, we did not expect to acquire any land. However, we are working out an ownership and management partnership with the Carlisle Conservation Foundation for the proposed 11-acre Malcolm Meadows Preserve at the northern gateway to Estabrook Woods.

### *Why are the Harvard and Middlesex precedents so important?*

Some of the most beautiful, historic, and ecologically significant landscapes throughout the country are owned by schools, colleges, churches, and other charitable institutions. In many cases, these institutions are hard-pressed for new sources of capital and income. Conservationists need to find creative ways to work with these institutions towards protection of scenic, historic, and ecological values of their properties.

*"This is one of the most ambitious conservation projects in our 104-year history."*

*Fred Winthrop,  
Director of  
The Trustees*

# Annual Report 1995 Financial Highlights

Overall, fiscal year 1995 (April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995) was a good year in spite of a deficit of \$60,000. Annual contributions increased by more than 20 percent, thanks to the enthusiastic response to the new *Charles Eliot Society*. Initiated in 1994 for donors at the level of \$2,500 or higher, 105 people had become members by year end.



*John Coleman, Deputy Director for Finance and Administration (left), and John O. Parker, Treasurer.*

Dues from memberships grew substantially, increasing 10 percent from the prior year. Total membership now exceeds 14,000.

Together, contributions and membership dues accounted for more than 27 percent of total revenues for the year, thanks to the financial support of loyal members and generous contributors.

Each year since the establishment in 1990 of a 5 percent spending policy for endowment income, dividends and interest have exceeded that amount. This has allowed us to transfer some of this income to endowment principal.

In fiscal 1994, the amount returned to endowment was \$81,000. In fiscal 1995, the spending policy amount exceeded dividends and interest received, so no transfer was made. The objective of the spending policy is to establish a reasonable amount we can spend each year from endowment in order to support operations and still have sufficient additional return retained in the endowment to offset inflation. In addition, averaging total endowment funds over three years for the purpose of calculating the 5 percent amount tends to smooth out annual fluctuations in endowment support of operations.

There were two principal reasons that we ended up with a deficit for the year. First, attendance at Castle Hill Festival events fell short of budget, and second, uncertain weekend weather during the summer negatively affected Crane Beach store sales and parking receipts. For fiscal 1996 we have attempted to budget conservatively for both of these relatively unpredictable revenue sources.

The Trustees of Reservations is in excellent financial condition, with substantial increases in membership and contributed support, and a record high level of endowment funds.

*John O. Parker*

John O. Parker  
Treasurer

*Copies of the 1995 Annual Report are available.*

## Volunteer Spotlight

### Volunteer Harold Caro keeps rolling along!

*Charles Eliot Society* member Harold Caro has been providing recreational tours for the elderly for nearly twenty years. Using his motor home to provide the service, Caro has delighted hundreds of senior citizens, residents of nursing and retirement homes, by offering them this rare opportunity to visit museums, gardens, shops, restaurants, and historic sites around the greater Boston area. His motor home accommodates up to eleven people. As compensation, all he asks of each is a smile and a kind word.

Almost ten years ago, a nursing assistant suggested that The Trustees' Rocky Woods Reservation in Medfield would be an ideal picnic location for Harold's mobile group. Since that time, Caro has been an ardent supporter of The Trustees and taken our mission of public use and enjoyment of special places to heart. With only a three-month winter break, in any given year



*Harold Caro at Rocky Woods Reservation, Medfield.*

Harold makes twenty-five to thirty day trips to Rocky Woods. That's a lot of picnics! Thank you Harold—we're smiling!

# C ❖ A ❖ L ❖ E ❖ N ❖ D ❖ A ❖ R

*A Listing of Updated and Newly Scheduled Events*

## 'Tis the Season at Castle Hill

*A variety of wonderful events to delight the whole family through December! All events take place in the Northeast Region at the Crane Memorial Reservation, in the Great House at Castle Hill, Argilla Road, Ipswich. Please call 508-356-4351 for more information and purchasing tickets.*

**SUN, DEC 3 and SAT, DEC 9**

**Holiday House Tours — 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

Tour Castle Hill's fifty-nine room Stuart-style mansion. First floor rooms are festively decorated for the holidays. Chicago industrialist Richard T. Crane Jr. had the Great House built by architect David Adler in 1927. The mansion features ornate wood carvings by Grinling Gibbons and magnificent bathrooms with sterling silver fixtures and soft-hued Italian marbles. Volunteer tour guides give an informative tour about this architectural masterpiece and the Crane family history. Members free. Non-member adults \$7, children and senior citizens \$5.

**TUES, DEC 5 — 4:00 P.M.**

**Older Children's Christmas Program**

"Garrison Keillor for children" Bill Harley delights children and parents with his songs and stories. "Harley's audiences are families, but it's hard to tell who enjoys him more—parents or the children. His material works at both levels," says *The Los Angeles Times*. Harley's witty and relevant scenarios have gained him a national following. After the performance, holiday cookies and punch are served. Reservations are strongly recommended. This performance is appropriate for children ages 8 to 12. \$15 first child, \$10 additional siblings, parents free. Sorry, no discounts. **Snow date: WED, DEC 6.**

**TUES-THURS-TUES, DEC 12-14-19**

**Younger Children's Christmas Party**  
3:30 P.M. (All days)

Ha'Penny Theatre presents Mr. Bear's Christmas, bringing stories to life with hand- and rod puppets, costumed characters, live actors, and audience participation. The show features a blend of storytelling and puppetry. Pat Spaulding, creator of the company, has been performing for audiences across the country since 1975.

Following the show, children can meet Santa Claus, who has a gift for every child. Holiday cookies and punch are served to brighten every child's spirit. Reservations are strongly recommended. This party is appropriate for children ages 3 to 7. \$15 first child, \$10 additional siblings, parents free. Sorry, no discounts. **Snow dates: For 12/12—DEC 13; for 12/14—DEC 15; for 12/19—DEC 20.**

**SUN, DEC 10**

**Holiday Benefit Luncheon — 12:00 NOON**

Enjoy a recreation of one of Mrs. Richard T. Crane's menus, provided by the *Hungry Fox Caterers* to benefit The Trustees. The afternoon begins with sipping sherry in the library and continues with an elegant and sumptuous lunch in the dining room and finishes with a choral performance by The Broad Cove Chorale and Unicorn Singers in the ballroom. Ten people per table. Reservations are required. Admission for all \$100. **Snow date: SUN, DEC 17.**

**SUN, DEC 10**

**Holiday Concert — 2:30 P.M.**

Sit by the fire and enjoy a holiday treat. The Broad Cove Chorale and Unicorn Singers perform holiday favorites in the Great House ballroom. The prominent South Shore ensemble encourages audience participation and ends the performance with a festive sing-a-long. The Chorale and Singers have performed at the Gardner Museum and the Fogg Art Museum. Adults \$15, children \$5. Sorry, no discounts. **Snow date: SUN, DEC 17.**

## Wildlife Survival on the Cobble

In the Western Region, Bartholomew's Cobble at Ashley Falls features **Nature in Winter** on the **FIRST and LAST SATURDAYS DECEMBER THROUGH FEBRUARY**. 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON. Join in winter adventures with Western Regional Ecologist Don Reid and learn the lessons to be found in nature's tracks and signs. Learn about the wildlife of the Cobble and its struggle for survival through these cold months. Weather permitting. Please pre-register by calling 413-229-8600. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

## Priscilla of Boston at Castle Hill

You are cordially invited to a benefit champagne brunch and bridal fashion show featuring the exquisite gowns by Priscilla of Boston and the areas best caterers and florists.

The Great House  
at Castle Hill  
Sunday

January 21, 1996  
11:30 A.M.

\$40 per person  
Seats are limited  
R.S.V.P.

508-356-4351

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All proceeds will benefit  
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of Reservations.

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for members of  
The Trustees.*

*This winter,  
ski or hike  
some of the  
most beautiful  
trails in western  
Massachusetts!*

## Events at Notchview Reservation

*This Trustees' property is the place to be for all of your favorite winter activities! Notchview is located in Windsor and offers its visitors a northern hardwood forest and spruce plantations with trails to hike and cross-country ski. Please call 413-684-0148 for more information and snow conditions.*

**SAT, DEC 2**

**Ski Season Opens at Notchview**

8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. (every day)

Notchview opens with a foot of new powder (hopefully!). Twenty-seven km. of cross-country trails of all difficulties—15 km. are groomed and tracked. Two trail shelters for those much needed breaks. Members free. Non-member adults \$7, children \$2.

**SUN, DEC 11**

**Harvest Your Own Christmas Tree**

12:00 NOON - 4:00 P.M.

Travel to snowy Windsor to select your own tree grown at Notchview's Hume Brook Demonstration Forest. Bring a saw or one will be provided. If there is snow, bring your cross-country skis or snowshoes. Access to the tree plantation is on Hume Road, a left just west of the Notchview entrance. All trees are \$20 and will benefit The Trustees.

**WED, JAN 3 and FRI, FEB 2**

**Moonlight Skiing — 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.**

Come experience the excitement of skiing by moonlight. Guided tours are available or ski with your own group. Hot cider and treats will be served in the Budd Visitor Center. Members free. Non-member adults \$7, children \$2.

**SUN, JAN 7**

**Ski Fest '96 — 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

Notchview will participate in this international learn-to-ski day. Lessons, discounted rentals, waxing clinics, and fun activities could mean this is *your* year to learn this winter sport! Join us! Members free. Non-member adults \$7, children \$2.

## Shorts of All Sorts

Welcome to **Mary A. Merges**, who joins us as the **Islands Regional Ecologist**. Mary has an M.S. in Environmental Studies from Antioch Graduate School. A former teacher of environmental education at Contoocook Valley Regional High School, Mary also has experience as an interpretive ranger at

Kings Canyon National Park in California and has done raptor field work at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania and at Hawkwatch International in New Mexico. Mary is a birder, enjoys canoeing, camping and flute playing.

**Terri Stephens** has joined the Northeast Region as **Functions Coordinator for Castle Hill and Long Hill**. Terri joins us from The House of Seven Gables in Salem and has 20 years of fund-raising, functions, and public relations experience. Welcome aboard!

**The 1996 Massachusetts Horticultural Society Spring Flower Show** is just around the corner. This spring, The Trustees will be co-sponsoring an exhibit at the annual flower show March 9-17 with the **Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD)**, highlighting the formal garden at the Eleanor Cabot Bradley Reservation in Canton.

In an effort to make this our best exhibit ever, we are asking for donations and loans of all sorts. We are looking for 3 antique sculptured pots to hold fuchsias, a mason to volunteer to help install the lattice wall (2 days), 2 or 3 large *Kalmia latifolia* (Mountain Laurel), or *Rhododendron Carolinum*, 5-7' feet. (APLD members will dig them and transport them to Wolfe's Greenhouse in Salem as soon as possible.)

We also need volunteers to help construct, staff, and dismantle the exhibit. If you can help, please call Tom Foster or Mary Campbell in the Southeast Regional Office at 617-821-2977.

**Southeast Region Wish List:** Mark Bailey, Superintendent of the Charles River Valley Management Unit hopes to find a snowmobile/ATV trailer, portable sawmill and an airtight, efficient, large-capacity wood stove for the visitor center at Rocky Woods.

Thinking about holiday giving? **Aerial photographs of the Labor-in-Vain Golf Course** are still available. A spectacular 8x10 print of the course taken during the three-day tournament this June would be a great gift. Please call Julie Phillips at The Trustees' Northeast Regional Office: 508-356-4351.

**The Stephens-Coolidge Place in North Andover** is in need of a photocopier. If you would like to make a charitable donation, please call Superintendent Bob Murray at 508-682-3580.

## Cape Poge Parcel Acquired

A 7.4-acre Chappaquiddick parcel of barrier beach, dune and wetland at the forearm of Cape Poge was acquired on October 5 to be managed as part of the 509-acre Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge.

W. T. WARD



Sold on very generous terms by Donald Greenstein of Pound Ridge, New York, it will be kept "forever wild." Except for its narrow beaches on Cape Poge Bay and Nantucket Sound, and a small pond with surrounding freshwater

wetland, the parcel is entirely covered by American beach grass. Deer, otter and northern harrier are frequent visitors. Funds for the purchase were provided by reserves accumulated over the past several years from the sale of oversand vehicle permits and a grant from the Fanny and Leo Koerner Charitable Trust.

Greenstein believes we should leave a place better than we found it. What better way to do that than to preserve a beautiful piece of land for future generations. "There is so little land preserved in this world and life is too short. . . If we don't help organizations like The Trustees, what are our future generations going to have?"

## Order Trail Maps for your Favorite Reservations! \$2 per map

- \_\_\_ Bartholomew's Cobble, *Ashley Falls*
- \_\_\_ Bear Swamp, *Ashfield*
- \_\_\_ Brooks Woodland Preserve/North Common Meadow/Swift River, *Petersham (1 map)*
- \_\_\_ Bryant Homestead, *Cummington*
- \_\_\_ Cape Poge/Wasque/Mytoi, *Martha's Vineyard (1 map)*
- \_\_\_ Chesterfield Gorge, *West Chesterfield*
- \_\_\_ Coolidge Reservation, *Manchester*
- \_\_\_ Crane Memorial Reservation/Crane Wildlife Refuge, *Ipswich & Essex (1 map)*
- \_\_\_ Elliott Laurel Reservation, *Phillipston*
- \_\_\_ Field Farm, *Williamstown*
- \_\_\_ Long Point Wildlife Refuge, *West Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard*
- \_\_\_ Misery Islands Reservation, *Salem Bay*
- \_\_\_ Monument Mountain, *Great Barrington*
- \_\_\_ Noanet Woodlands, *Dover*
- \_\_\_ Notchview Reservation, *Windsor*
- \_\_\_ Rocky Woods, *Medfield - Hiking*
- \_\_\_ Rocky Woods, *Medfield - X-Country Skiing*
- \_\_\_ Stavros Reservation, *Essex*
- \_\_\_ Tyringham Cobble, *Tyringham*
- \_\_\_ Ward Reservation, *Andover/North Andover*
- \_\_\_ Weir Hill Reservation, *North Andover*
- \_\_\_ Whitney and Thayer Woods, *Cohasset & Hingham*
- \_\_\_ World's End, *Hingham*

## Record Piping Plover Numbers on Trustees Properties in 1995!

T. D. ONGARO



From Crane Beach to East Beach, Nantucket to Nashawena, The Trustees were again leaders in the Commonwealth's efforts to protect the threatened, beach-

nesting Piping Plover. Adult Plovers appeared in March and by season's end in August, we had recorded 67 breeding pairs (50% increase over 1994) and 98 fledged young (33% increase over 1994) on beaches under our management. Of the approximately 450 pairs of Plovers breeding in Massachusetts in 1995, we protected an impressive 15% of the entire population.

Crane Beach led the way with 28 pairs (33% increase over 1994) and the remaining pairs were scattered across the Islands' beaches, with Cape Poge occupied by 16 pairs (130% increase over 1994). During nesting season, controversy once again occurred on the Islands, where oversand vehicle closures were implemented. All Trustees staff associated with our Piping Plover protection programs should be applauded for their tireless efforts and leadership in the Piping Plover recovery effort.

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D. J. POWELL

*Congratulations to our 1995 Volunteers of the Year, Doug and Marion Leach; Alan French, Conservationist of the Year; and Dave Belcher, Employee of the Year.*

## Annual Meeting 1995

At the 104th Annual Meeting held in the Great House, Castle Hill, at Crane Memorial Reservation in Ipswich on September 20, a number of individuals received special recognition. Doug and Marion Leach of Tyringham received the 1995 Volunteers of the Year Award. For more than 20 years they have been the quintessential Trustees' volunteers, willing to help with anything and everything!

They are loyal, energetic membership recruiters, whether staffing the membership table at The Bryant Homestead Crafts Fair or simply sharing their enthusiasm for The Trustees with those they meet. Four seasons a year, you can find them at Tyringham Cobble, providing direct, hands-on care for the reservation—removing dead and dangerous trees, mowing the fields, cutting brush, and keeping the barberry under control. Since 1969 Doug and Marion have been vital members of The Trustees family, and we are proud to recognize their years of service.

Conservationist of the Year Award was awarded to Alan French of Andover. As Chairman of the Bay Circuit Alliance, Inc., Al is the prime mover in a major effort to accomplish, at the grass roots, an important conservation goal envisioned in 1929 by our own Henry M. Channing and Charles Eliot II. That goal is to establish a protected and continuous greenbelt surrounding metropolitan Boston from Plum Island to Duxbury. Called the Bay Circuit, the greenbelt will link areas of open space owned by The Trustees and other private groups, by the 50 towns in the corridor, and by the Commonwealth.

Unfortunately, by the time Al took the lead, it was more than a half century after the original Channing/Eliot vision and the land had become too costly to permit the original grand design to be realized. Al saw the strategic need to focus on a practical, shorter-term goal that could generate interest, enthusiasm, and support. That interim goal is a 220-mile connected trail from Plum Island to Duxbury, on public land, and on private land with the permission of its owners. Al has been enormously effective in generating support and commitment, and the trail marches ever closer towards its goal.

Dave Belcher, Superintendent of The Trustees' Chappaquiddick Management Unit on Martha's Vineyard, was awarded Employee of the Year. Over the past six years, managing our Chappy properties and its many visitors has been a real challenge. Dave has dealt with an increased number of off-road vehicles at Cape Poge and Wasque. There has been the need to enforce restrictive new policies protecting endangered shorebirds, while this year, months of discussions finally led to the reconstruction and reopening of the Dike Bridge. Restoring this access to East Beach meant Dave and his staff had to construct and staff an additional gatehouse and lay out new boardwalks and facilities for beachgoers.

In addition to these management challenges, Dave took over the operation of the natural history tours at Cape Poge and took the lead in cleaning up and opening the currently unstaffed but very scenic Cape Poge Lighthouse as the destination for the tours.

Dave accomplished all this against the backdrop of a major, life-threatening auto accident that occurred in December, 1993. Dave and his wife Cathie's recovery has been slow and painful; over the past 18 months, they have shown enormous courage. Dave's professionalism and pride in his work have remained undiminished throughout.

Finally, special thanks were given to Tatiana Bezamat and Jane Wykoff for their tremendously successful fundraiser to benefit the restoration fund of Castle Hill. The Labor-in-Vain Golf Tournament was held for three days last June on the course which was originally laid out by Richard Crane. Last used for golf in 1943, it was played on again by a very happy group of several hundred golfers.



D. J. POWELL

*Tatiana Bezamat and Jane Wykoff receiving recognition awards for the Labor-in-Vain Golf Tournament from President Al Creighton and Chairman Norton Sloan.*

## Annual Giving — The Continuing Challenge

Last year, Chairman of the Standing Committee Norton Sloan declared The Trustees' annual giving program to be the organization's highest priority. The response to his call for increased annual support resulted in record breaking annual support for fiscal year 1994-1995. Now we are faced with the challenge of repeating and building on that success.

By its very nature, annual giving is a continuing challenge. Annual giving provides support for the operating budget of The Trustees. Along with membership, it helps to close the budget gap between expenses and income from endowments, gate receipts, and events. A strong annual giving program is essential to The Trustees' effectiveness. An annual gift may be unrestricted or designated to a specific property or program, but it must help support the regular budget rather than a special project. And, it is needed every year.

Although annual support is vitally important, it doesn't seem very exciting to most people. It hasn't the focus of a special project or capital



J. J. BECK

Leaders of the annual giving program. Rear from left, Harry Guild, Founding Chairman of The Charles Eliot Society, Jack Kinney and Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld, Co-Chairpersons of The 1891 Society, and Susanna Weld, Chairman of the Grassroots Appeal.

campaign. It's as regular and dull as paying the mortgage or telephone bill—and just as basic. And, like our household bills, The Trustees' annual needs increase each year. Therefore, not only do we need your support each year, we also need growing support each year.

Your annual gift helps us utilize the best ideas from a wide range of disciplines—ecology, archaeology, forestry, museum studies, landscape design—to preserve and interpret the special places in our care and make them available to you and generations to come.

It strengthens our land protection program enabling us to work with more landowners, local land trusts, and communities, so we won't miss opportunities to protect important properties.

We need your help. If you have not already made an annual gift, when you receive your appeal, give it your full attention and respond as generously as you can. If you usually make an annual gift, please consider increasing your gift this year. If you have never given to the annual giving program, please consider doing so now.

Your support keeps The Trustees on the job, protecting the best of Massachusetts for everyone to enjoy. We can't do it without you!

*As the season of giving approaches, tell your friends and family to*

### Take a Hike!

*or enjoy a walk, go canoeing, spend a day skiing, plan a fishing trip, even sign up for an oversand vehicle safari on Martha's Vineyard!*

*Give the gift of membership. Membership in The Trustees of Reservations opens a world of possibilities with 77 of the most beautiful properties in Massachusetts for your friends and family to explore and enjoy.*

*We'll make your gift-giving as easy as possible by sending the new membership packet directly to the recipient or to you, if you would prefer to present your gift in person. Just let us know your preference.*

*Each membership packet will contain a special card with your name and any special message you would like to convey.*

I'd like to give a gift of membership at this level:

- |   |   |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$40)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing (\$100) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sr./Student (\$30) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (\$150)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$60)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (\$300)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sr./Student (\$50) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor (\$600)      |

This membership is **FOR:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

This membership is **FROM:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Please send the membership packet to my address.

Please make checks payable to The Trustees of Reservations and return, with this form, to: The Trustees, Membership Office, 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530.

"The coyote is here to stay, and that makes it important for people to understand how this animal fits into our natural environment."

I first developed an interest in the coyote while working for The Nature Conservancy in Arizona. Native Americans of the southwest have long understood the value and cunning of this animal, endowing it with names such as God's dog and the trickster. As expected, most ranchers in the southwest have been a bit slower with a feeling of respect, and only recently have begun to understand the value of this animal in a very fragile predator/prey relationship.



Coyote, *Canis latrans*

The coyote is native to the west/mid-western areas of the U.S., and has now extended its range to the limits of the Atlantic Ocean. Coyotes are now a common predator on Cape Cod. Biologist Peter Trull is studying the coyote on the Cape, and when asked how they got there, enjoys telling people, "The same way you did, over one of the bridges." You can stand anywhere in Massachusetts and be quite sure a coyote is within 1-10 miles of you.

The coyote has been in Massachusetts since the mid- to late fifties and will probably replace the fox in many areas, if it hasn't done so already, as our number one mammalian predator. The coyote is here to stay, and that makes it important for people to understand how this animal fits into our natural environment.

Our coyote, the eastern race, is substantially larger than its western cousin, with large males weighing close to 35-40 pounds. Biologists have a few theories for this. The one most widely accepted at this time, and substantiated with DNA testing, is interbreeding with timber wolves.

From the time settlers first arrived in this country, the timber wolf was hunted down and killed on sight. This was done in the misbelief that wolves were a threat to

humans. There is not one substantiated record of a wolf attack on a human in North America! As the wolf was pushed west and numbers continued to drop, they were forced to mate with their closest relative, the coyote. Genetically these animals are very closely related. Viable young were produced. The wolf was finally extirpated from the northeast, but the eastern coyote remains.

A term and exaggeration that needs to be cleared up is *coydog*! It is true that on rare occasions a coyote will interbreed with a feral dog. Packs of coydogs roaming the state is at the least a major exaggeration, and certainly unfair to the coyote. Eastern coyotes are animals with a genetic structure that has been established. Their numbers allow them to breed true.

Coyotes are generally nocturnal predators, but can be observed in the early morning or late evening. They are social animals, but contrary to popular belief, they rarely if ever hunt in packs. A single animal, or pair working together, is the norm.

Rather than engage themselves with large prey and waste precious energy, they prefer to scavenge or hunt small animals like meadow voles and mice. Whitetail deer carrion is one of their main food sources in the east, particularly in winter.

Coyotes rarely dig their own dens, preferring to expand on an existing cavity, such as those of fox or woodchuck. Their young are born in these dens in April or May. A coyote in the wild can be expected to live about 15 years. Humans and dogs are their predators. These animals have an amazing ability to survive injury. Add to that a top speed of 40 m.p.h., and you have an animal that is extremely well adapted for survival.

All systems need a top predator to remain biologically and ecologically healthy. It appears the coyote will be one of our larger mammals to fill that role in Massachusetts.

Last night I listened for the howls and yips of the coyote in my little niche at Bartholomew's Cobble. I was not disappointed and my young son was enthralled. For whatever reason the coyote vocalizes—either for sheer enjoyment or to call the clan together, the sound takes me back to the wilderness of the southwest. I hope the coyotes' cry will always be present to remind us of wilderness, wild things, and who really rules the night!



J. A. WOLLENSAK

Detail of "tooled leather" wallpaper in Naumkeag's library, Stockbridge, one of three historic house properties of The Trustees to benefit from the award of a recent IMS grant.

## The Trustees of Reservations Receives IMS Federal Grant for Museum Collections

Along with 20,000 acres of the Massachusetts landscape, The Trustees cares for more than 20,000 museum objects that furnish and document its historic house properties. Efforts to preserve these objects received a boost this August with the award of a \$25,000 grant from the federal Institute of Museum Services (IMS) for general conservation surveys of three of the historic house



Interior, second floor hall, the Great House at the Crane Memorial Reservation. The marble and gilded console table and chairs inlaid with ivory represent some of the more complicated objects to care for at Castle Hill.

properties. In a general conservation survey, a collections conservator and a building preservation specialist examine a collection and the structure housing it, providing a report assessing current conditions and making prioritized recommendations for continued collections care.

"A good general conservation survey is the essential building block in developing a long-range plan for collections preservation," said Associate Director for Historic Resources Elizabeth Redmond, who will direct the 18-month project. The Trustees was among 56 award recipients out of 266 applicants nationwide, and among 17 receiving the maximum \$25,000 grant allowed. Work begins this fall with surveys at the William Cullen Bryant Homestead and Naumkeag, and continues next year at Castle Hill.

## THE SEMPER VIRENS SOCIETY



### Tips for Year-End Giving

If you're like most people, you do your major giving toward the end of the year. We offer these five tips to help you make the most of your year-end giving.

- 1. Calculate your income.** Try to get a handle on your tax liability for the year. Did your earned or unearned income increase? Did you sell any appreciated assets? Will you owe more taxes? If so, you may want to up your giving before December 31.
- 2. Review your stocks.** Look at the stocks you have held for more than a year. Which ones have appreciated the most? It may be prudent for you to make your year-end gift using one or more of these stocks. If you use the stock to make a gift to The Trustees, you avoid a capital gains tax and get a charitable deduction for the full amount of the stock.
- 3. Consider a life income gift.** Our planned giving program offers a range of life income plans to fit your needs. You can make a gift now, obtain substantial tax benefits and receive income for the rest of your life.
- 4. Do your giving early.** This is especially true if you want to make a gift of non-cash assets or a life income gift.
- 5. Talk to your advisor.** Before making any significant gift, you should consult with your financial advisor to be sure you understand the impact of your gift on your income tax return or estate.

- ☐ I intend to include The Trustees in my will; please send me information about making a bequest.
- ☐ I would like more information on how to make a life income gift to The Trustees.
- ☐ I have remembered The Trustees in my estate plan and wish to become a member of The Semper Virens Society.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out and return this form to:  
Eloise W. Hodges, Deputy Director for Planned Giving  
The Trustees of Reservations  
572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530

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*You oughta be in pictures . . .*

## New Roof for the Choate House on Hog Island!

One of the benefits to The Trustees of the Twentieth Century-Fox production of *The Crucible*, filmed on Hog Island this summer and fall, was the much-needed roof repair to the historic Choate House on the island.

In the next issue of *Special Places*, watch for a photo essay featuring the Fox production and a special interview about the making of the movie with Wayne Mitton, Northeast Regional Supervisor, and Peter Pinciario, Ipswich Management Unit Superintendent.



*Re-roofing of the Choate House on Hog Island, at the Cornelius and Miné S. Crane Wildlife Refuge, made quite a scene during production of the Twentieth-Century Fox film **The Crucible**, based on Arthur Miller's play of the same name, starring Daniel Day-Lewis and Winona Ryder, which was filmed on the island this summer and fall.*

K. A. WOLLENSAK